

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4860
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
USE OF IODISED SALT
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether India lags far behind the other countries of the World in the matter of use of iodised salt;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor and ;
- (c) the concrete measures being taken by the Government to encourage the use of iodised salt?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): As per National Family Health Survey 1999, about 49% of the households were consuming adequately iodised salt whereas 21.6% of the households were consuming iodised salt inadequately. The percentage of households consuming non-iodised salt was found to be 28.4%.

(c): In order to prevent and control the problem of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDDs), the Government is implementing National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme in the country. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is providing financial assistance for establishment of IDD Control Cell and IDD Monitoring Laboratory to the States/UTs for effective implementation of National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme. In order to increase the consumption of iodised salt, the Information, Education and communication (IEC) activities have been intensified in all the States/UTs through Prasar Bharati, All India Radio, Song & Drama Division, Directorate of Field Publicity and Directorate of Advertisement and Visual Publicity (DAVP) besides allocation of fund to the State Governments for health education and the State level. Office of the Salt Commissioner, functioning under the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion in the Government of India, is engaged in the planning of production and distribution of iodised salt to meet the required demand in the country.